



THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

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In re application of:

PIRES *et al.*

Appl. No. 09/986,750

Filed: November 9, 2001

For: **Method for Removing a Universal
Linker from an Oligonucleotide**

Confirmation No. 5957

Art Unit: 1635

Examiner: Schultz, J.

Atty. Docket: 0942.5080001/RWE/CJW

Petition For Extension of Time Under 37 C.F.R. § 1.136(a)(1)

Commissioner for Patents
PO Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

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Sir:

It is hereby requested that the period for replying to the outstanding Office Action be extended three months from June 11, 2003, to September 11, 2003, by the filing of this Petition and fee payment.

The petition fee (37 C.F.R. § 1.17(a)) is believed to be \$930.00 for a three-month extension for a large entity. Fee payment is provided in our accompanying PTO-2038 Credit Card Payment Form. However, if extensions of time under 37 C.F.R. § 1.136 other than those provided herewith are required to prevent abandonment of the present patent application, then such extensions of time are hereby petitioned.

The U.S. Patent and Trademark Office is hereby authorized to charge any fee deficiency, or credit any overpayment, to our Deposit Account No. 19-0036.

Respectfully submitted,

STERNE, KESSLER, GOLDSTEIN & FOX P.L.L.C.

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Date: September 11, 2003

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